



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/671,754	09/26/2003	Cosmin Iorga	1839-US	9346
7590	07/14/2005		EXAMINER WELLS, KENNETH B	
Legal Department Teradyne, Inc. 321 Harrison Avenue Boston, MA 02118			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2816	
DATE MAILED: 07/14/2005				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/671,754

Applicant(s)

IORGA, COSMIN

Examiner

Kenneth B. Wells

Art Unit

2816

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 May 2005.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 5-8 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 5/23/05
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2816

1. The amendment filed on 5/18/05 has been received and entered in the case.
2. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
3. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: the specification is still objected to because it is incorrect to refer to CM1 as a "fanout mirror" and PCM2 as a "programmable current mirror". As is clear from the drawings, CM1 is just a FET, and both PCM1, PCM2 are simply three parallel-connected FETs. Applicant in his remarks argues that the examiner is incorrect, but provides no reasons in support thereof. Therefore the objection is repeated.
4. Claims 1 and 6 are objected to because of the following informalities: on line 10 of claim 1, after the word "first" the following phrase should be inserted: --transistor having a first--. The same correction is needed in claim 6 at line 6. Appropriate correction is required.
5. Claims 5-8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point

Art Unit: 2816

out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

In independent claim 5, it cannot be determined what elements of the instant invention are being claimed, because the claim is presented in means-plus-function format (i.e., 112, 6th paragraph), but then recites further limitations in dependent claims 6-8. In other words, under 112, 6th paragraph, the recitation of "means for detecting changes" in claim 5 would appear to require all of the structure shown in the disclosed embodiments (including the supply voltage current mirror, etc). However, claim 6 recites that the "means for detecting changes" of claim 5 comprises a supply voltage current mirror. This is unclear because the means-plus-function format of claim 5 suggests that claim 5 already includes the supply voltage current mirror. Therefore, the scope of the invention of claim 5 cannot be determined with sufficient accuracy.

6. Claim 5, to the extent that it does not require the limitations of its dependent claims (see the above-noted indefiniteness rejection), is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hwang et al.

Note Fig. 5, where the recited "means for detecting changes" reads on the combination of the mirror formed by FETs

Art Unit: 2816

511 and 512 and the mirror formed by FETs 522 and 523; the recited "means for generating a compensation signal" reads on the mirror formed by FETs 522 and 523 (it outputs the compensation signal at node 550); the recited "means for generating a compensation current" reads on circuit 530 (the compensation current is current I); and the recited "current mirror" on the penultimate line of claim 5 reads on the mirror formed by FETs 520 and 521.

7. Claims 1-4 and 13-17 are allowed.

Claims 6-8 would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. 112, 2nd paragraph, set forth in this Office action and to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

8. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS

Art Unit: 2816

of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

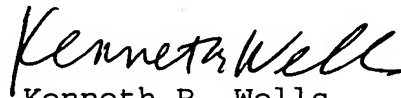
9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth B. Wells whose telephone number is (571)272-1757. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:30am to 5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Timothy P. Callahan, can be reached at (571)272-1740. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status

Art Unit: 2816

information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Kenneth B. Wells
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2816

July 8, 2005